

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 OPIC-03 XMB-02 OMB-01

ACDA-05 IO-10 CIEP-01 /092 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1546

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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL AFTER ONE YEAR

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: UNION-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

REF: STATE 138292

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, PINO QUERENGHI, NATIONAL SECRETARY (REPUBLICAN) OF UIL INDICATED JUNE 19 MEETING WILL NOT REPEAT NOT FOCUS SPECIFICALLY ON US BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES. CONCERN OF BOTH UNIONS AND GOVERNMENT IS WITH GLOBAL UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM IN NAPLES AREA WHICH QUERENGHI TERMED "EXPLOSIVE".

2. QUERENGHI SAID THE UNIONS ARE ALSO VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION THROUGHOUT ITALY. HE DISAGREED WITH GOVERNMENT REPORTS THAT THE RECESSIONS MAY HAVE BOTTOMED OUT IN ITALY DURING THE CURRENT QUARTER. UNION ESTIMATES ARE THAT 600,000 WORKERS ARE NOW ON SHORT WORK WEEKS, DRAWING BENEFITS FROM THE WAGE SUPPLEMENT FUND. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE APPROXIMATELY ONE MILLION UNEMPLOYED AND UNDEREMPLOYED.

3. THE CURRENT RATE OF INFLATION (15-16 PERCENT ON AN ANNUAL BASIS) COMBINED WITH THE WEAKNESS OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR WILL SERIOUSLY COMPLICATE MAJOR NATIONAL CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

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(CHEMICAL WORKERS, CONSTRUCTION, METAL WORKERS, INTER ALIA)

LATER THIS YEAR. IN VIEW OF THIS DIFFICULT SITUATION ONE OF THE
MAJOR CURRENT OBJECTIVES OF THE UNIONS, ACCORDING TO QUERENGHI,
IS TO MAINTAIN THE MORO GOVERNMENT IN OFFICE AT LEAST UNTIL
THE FALL INORDER TO AVOID THE POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES WHICH
IMPEDE THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS. VOLPE

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